Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CPR-02

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SY-04 PRS-01 A-01 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 SP-03 EB-11 COA-02 DLOS-07 DRC-01 COME-00

OPIC-12 TRSE-00 SCI-06 /126 W ----- 082850

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TAGS: EFIS, OVIP (TANTALEAN VANINI, JAVIER), PE, US SUBJECT: MINISTER OF FISHERIES DEPARTURE STATEMENT

REFS: LIMA 6724, LIMA 6694, LIMA 2210

1. IN PRESS CONFERENCE DEPARTURE STATEMENT EVENING OF AUGUST 14, MINISTER OF FISHERIES GENERAL JAVIER TANTALEAN VANINI ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL SIGN FINAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN STAR-KIST AND EPSEP (EMPRESA PUBLICA DE SERVICIOS PESOUEROS. THE STATE FISH MARKETING BOARD) IN WASHINGTON DURING HIS VISIT TO U.S. FIRM WILL BE CALLED COPEP (COMPANIA PESQUERA ESTRELLA DEL PERU). THE MINISTER, ACCORDING LOCAL PRESS, PRAISED STAR-KIST AS ONE OF BIGGEST TUNA FIRMS IN WORLD, AND REITERATED THAT THE JOINT VENTURE HAS ALREADY BEEN FUNCTIONING, USING AS A BASE THE FORMER "CONSUMO HUMANO" INSTALLATIONS OF COISHCO. THE MINISTER SAID THAT STAR-KIST WILL FURNISH 49 PERCENT OF THE CAPITAL, AND EPSEP 51 PERCENT, AND THAT EVENTUALLY EPSEP WILL EXPAND ITS CAPITAL TO INCLUDE 67 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL. HE ADDED THAT THE ENTERPRISE WILL PRODUCE FISH FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION, WITH "A HIGH GRADE OF TECHNOLOGY." AND THAT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEW VENTURE WILL ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF FISHING OPER-

ATIONS HERE, INCLUDING A "NEW FLEET, NEW CANNING FACILITIES AND THE PROCESSING OF ALL TYPES OF MARINE PRODUCTS."

- 2. THE MINISTER MADE A DIRECT PUBLIC REFERENCE TO AN OCEAN-OGRAPHIC RESEARCH VESSEL, NOTING, ACCORDING TO EL CORREO, THAT IN THE U.S. THE "FINAL STAGES OF A REQUEST FOR THE SALE OF A SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SHIP SHOULD BE COMPLETED."
- 3. THE MINISTER SAID THAT HE WILL TRAVEL TO EAST GERMANY TO SIGN A TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR FISHING AND THEN ON TO POLAND WHERE HE HOPES TO SIGN ON AUGUST 24 A \$6.5 MILLION LOAN AGREEMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TACNA PORT COMPLEX (SEE LIMA A-122). POLISH CREDIT TERMS ARE TWO YEARS GRACE, 3-4 PERCENT INTEREST, WITH PAYMENT OVER TEN YEARS. THIS LOAN IS PART OF A LARGER \$40 MILLION LOAN AGREEMENT, HE SAID. TANTALEAN RETURNS TO LIMA AT THE END OF AUGUST.
- 4. COMMENT: DURING LAST TWO YEARS, TANTALEAN HAS PUBLICLY PRAISED U.S. TUNA INDUSTRY AND FACT THAT IT CAN ASSIST IN DEVELOPING PERUVIAN TUNA FOR FISH FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION SERVICES; AND HIS STATEMENT ALONG THOSE LINES WAS NOT UNEXPECTED. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED FROM STAR-KIST LAWYER, HOWEVER, THAT AGREEMENT WAS DRAWN UP RAPIDLY IN LAST FEW DAYS ON RUSH BASIS. IT IS CLEAR, IN REGARD TO STAR-KIST, THAT MINISTER IS PLEASED THAT HE HAS BEEN ABLE TO RESOLVE WHAT COULD HAVE DEVELOPED INTO A POTENTIAL SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. AS STATED LIMA 6724, TANTALEAN PLANS TO DISCUSS FISHERIES QUESTIONS, INCLUDING POSSIBLE ACQUISITION OF RESEARCH VESSEL, WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICERS DURING COURSE HIS WASHINGTON VISIT BEGINNING TODAY (AUGUST 15).

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Message Attributes

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